Education to Children of Terrorist Victims

4815. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU) : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of Government to provide necessary education to the children of terrorist victims of Jammu and Kashmir State and other States;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) the budget allocation for this project; and

(d) by when the proposal is likely to be functional?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) Yes, Sir, for the State of Jammu and Kashmir only.

(b) The proposal envisages educating 100 children of terrorist victims in different Army Public Schools.

(c) Army is meeting the expense of educating the children out of its own regimental fund. There is no separate budgetary provision from the Central Government for the same.

(d) Depending on the response, the proposal is likely to become functional with effect from 2004.

Purchase of AJTs

4816. SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the authorities returned over Rs. 7000 crores recently since it failed to approve big purchases for the armed forces;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether files relating to many major purchases like Advanced Jet Trainers (AJT), submarines, etc. were pending with the authorities;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the delay on decision taking in AJT is forcing trainee pilots to continue with advanced training on MIG-21 aircraft, and

(f) if so, the details including the steps taken to resolve the issue ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) and (b) Against an allocation of Rs. 65,000 crores in Budget Estimates 2002-2003, the provision made in Revised Estimates was Rs. 56,000 crores.

(c) and (d) These are major acquisition proposals involving substantial expenditure and therefore all technical and commercial aspects have to be examined carefully.

(e) Indian Air Force has been using MIG-21 FL fighter aircrafts for advanced jet training of fighter pilots.

(f) The Government is keen on early finalisation of procurement of AJT.

Purchase of Auto Pilot System

4817. SHRI C.P. THIRUNAVUKKARASU :
SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the reasons for delay in purchasing auto pilot system;

(b) whether the Appraisal Committee has submitted its report on Jaguar Upgradation Programme; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the steps that have been taken or are being taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) A contract was concluded for procurement of a suitable Auto Pilot System in 1999. This contract could not be implemented in practical terms due to the non-availability of adequate space for the Auto Pilot Electronic Unit (APEU) in the aircraft. Suitable reconfiguration and certification by the Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) was required for the installation of the APEU. This issue has been resolved. Integration work on the programme has already commenced.

(b) and (c) there is no Appraisal Committee. However, the Price Negotiation Committee has completed its negotiation with M/s. Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) for the Jaguar Upgradation programme. Government have approved the Upgradation programme by HAL and the contract is likely to be signed shortly with HAL.

Deployment of Missiles

†4818. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that India has not deployed any of its missiles so far despite development of missiles like Agni etc;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) by when such missiles are likely to be deployed ?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi